

In the Beginning...

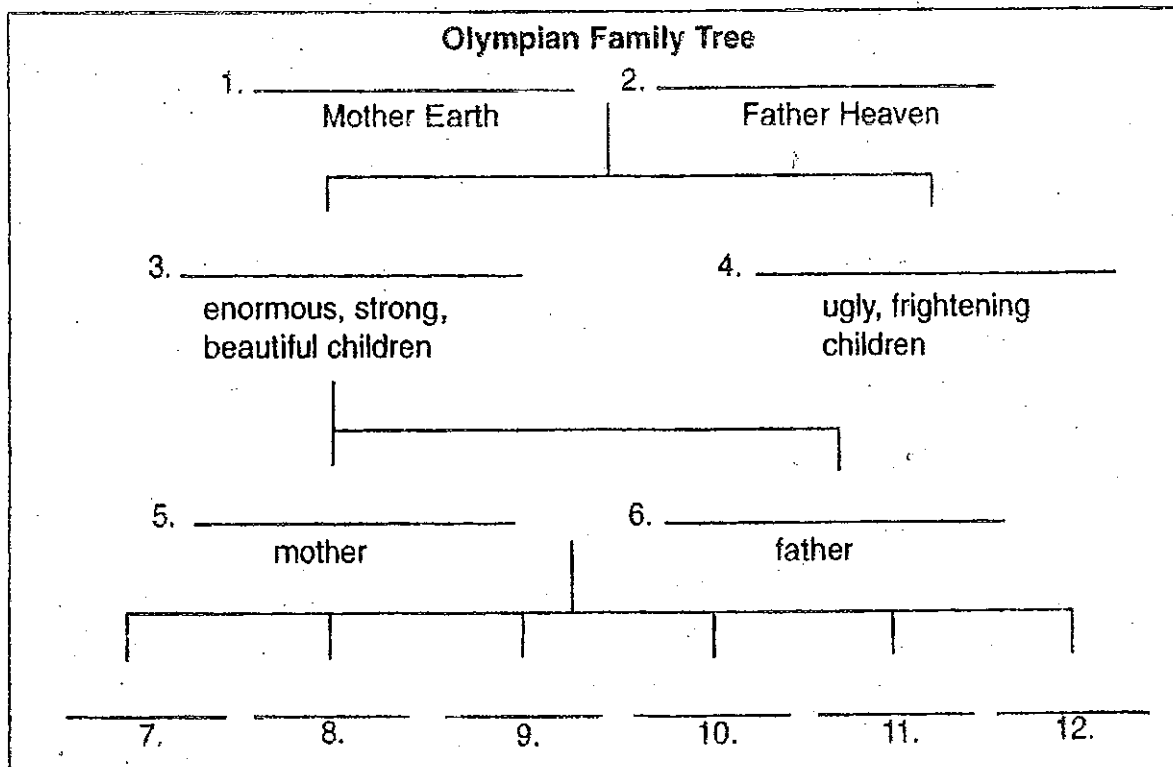
In the beginning, all was nothingness. Some say the nothingness was noisy chaos, and others suggest that all was silent. Although no one could say how or when, the nothingness became light, and day was followed by night. Then came love. With love, Mother Earth (Gaea) and Father Heaven (Uranus) came into being. Because of their love, they had many children. They had two kinds of children: Titan children and monster children. The Titan children were enormous, strong, and beautiful. The monster children were ugly and frightening.

Uranus disliked his monster children and locked them underground in the darkest part of the earth. However, Gaea was heartbroken and asked her youngest son, Cronus, who was one of the Titans, to rescue them. He agreed. To thank him for his help, Mother Earth gave her son Cronus and his sister Rhea, who was also a Titan, rule of heaven and earth.

Cronus and Rhea married each other and had six children. Each time Rhea presented Cronus with a child, however, he swallowed it. Rhea was horrified. When her sixth child was born, she wrapped a rock in a blanket instead of the baby and presented it to Cronus. He swallowed the rock, believing it to be a baby. Rhea then sent her sixth child, Zeus, to the island of Crete to be raised. Once Zeus had grown up, he and Rhea fought against Cronus to make him vomit the five swallowed children, now fully grown.

Zeus divided the world among himself, his brothers (Hades and Poseidon), and his sisters (Hestia, Demeter, and Hera). Thus began the final generation of rule by the Olympians.

Fill in the appropriate names to complete the Olympian Family Tree.



THE OLYMPIANS

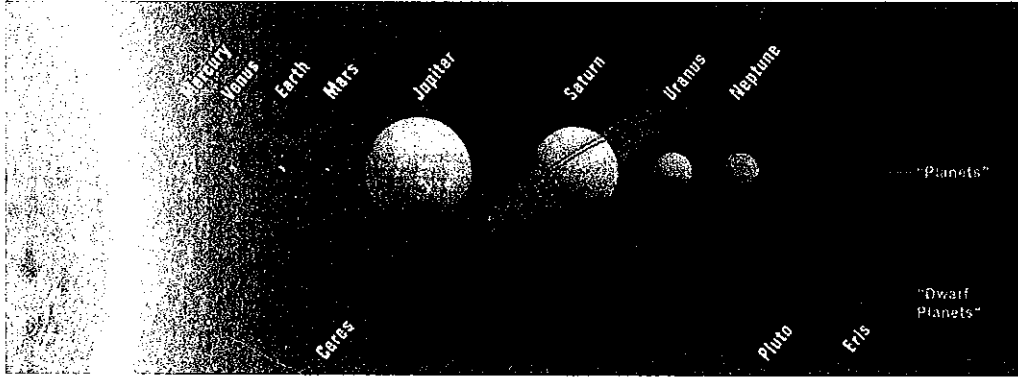
Name	Role	Relation to Zeus	Roman Name	Note
Zeus	King of all gods and goddesses		Jupiter	
Hera	Queen of all gods and goddesses; Goddess of marriage	Zeus' sister & wife	Juno	
Aphrodite	Goddess of love & beauty	Zeus' daughter with Dione	Venus	Mother of Eros (Cupid)
Apollo	God of music, poetry, and archery	Zeus' son with Leto	Apollo	
Ares	God of war	Zeus' son with Hera	Mars	
Artemis	Goddess of hunting and moon; Protector of women in childbirth	Zeus' daughter with Leto	Diana	Apollo's twin sister
Athena	Goddess of wisdom	Zeus' daughter (sprung full-grown from Zeus' head)	Minerva	
Hephaestus	God of fire and forge	Zeus' son with Hera	Vulcan	Aphrodite's husband
Hermes	God of guidance; Messenger of the gods	Zeus' son with Maia	Mercury	
Poseidon	God of earthquakes, the oceans, and horses	Zeus' brother	Neptune	
Demeter	Goddess of agriculture	Zeus' sister	Ceres	Alternate
Dionysus	God of wine	Zeus' son with Semele	Bacchus	Alternate
Hades	God of wealth; Lord of the underworld	Zeus' brother	Pluto	Alternate
Hestia	Goddess of family, home, and hearth	Zeus' sister	Vesta	Alternate

Roman Mythology

Greek and Roman mythology has continued to influence us in ways we may not realize. The planets were named after gods and goddesses. Each planet has characteristics that are similar to the god or goddess it is named after. Using the map of the solar system, the list of names below, and what you know about the Greek gods, figure out which Roman gods were named after planets. In sections I and II, the names with a star (*) next to them are the 12 major gods of the Pantheon (a temple to all the gods). You may use your notes from class, the Internet, and an encyclopedia to help you.

I.

Roman Gods



Greek Gods

Poseidon	Hermes	Aphrodite
Cronus	Demeter	Zeus
Hades	Ares	Ouranos

Greek Name

Roman Name

- *1. This planet is about the same size as the Earth. She is the goddess of beauty.
- *2. This planet is blue and furthest away from the sun. He is god of the sea.
- *3. This is the largest planet in the solar system. He is the leader of all the gods.
- 4. This planet is next to Saturn. He is father of Saturn and god of the sky.
- *5. This is the fastest planet in the solar system and closest to the sun. He is the Messenger God.
- 6. This is the slowest planet in the solar system. He is the god of time.
- 7. This is the coldest planet. Recently, it was declared to be no longer a planet. He is the god of death and the Underworld.
- *8. This planet is red and next to the Earth. He is the god of war.
- *9. This is a dwarf planet. She is the goddess of harvest and the Earth.

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